



GOVERNOR DUMMER ACADEMY

# the Archon

newsletter

• BYFIELD, MA 01922 •

SUMMER 1979

## 86 GRADUATE IN 216th COMMENCEMENT

Governor Dummer's 216th graduating class assembled for the last time on the lawn of the Mansion House on Friday, June 8, as 86 seniors received diplomas, special prizes, and words of encouragement. The Commencement speaker was former U.S. Congressman Michael Harrington, who spoke on the need for public service and leadership in the coming years.

Commencement exercises officially began the previous day with the arrival of athletically-inclined alumni to challenge the varsity lacrosse and baseball teams. This year youth and teamwork were not enough to collapse the high-powered alumni men's lacrosse offense, which



boasted the four top scorers in the school's history and beat the varsity 14-4. Another high-scoring lacrosse team met at the same time, but this time it was the championship women's varsity who tutored the returning alumnae in shooting skills with a lopsided win. In its 13th annual confrontation, an alumni baseball team of mixed vintage nearly ended a long tradition of varsity dominance, losing 8-7 in the last inning.

The award ceremony on Thursday evening began with the presentation of the Morse Flag to Stuart R. Cawley of West Newbury. The Dartmouth-bound senior was also the recipient of the Thorndike-Hilton Cup as the ranking scholar in the class. The evening assembly featured speeches by Bruce W. Lindsay of Boxford, Derek D. Spears of Bronx, New York, and James J. Ronan of Marblehead who served as toastmaster. Spears also won the coveted Academy Prize (formerly the Master's Prize) and the Goodwin Athletic Prize.

Stephen L. Perry of Boxford was the recipient of the Peter Marshall French Trophy, awarded to "a student at any level whose perseverance, sportsmanship, and generous spirit on the playing field, regardless of distinction as an athlete, represent the highest standards of participation." To his sister Susan Perry went the Whittemore Award as the outstanding sophomore. For excellence in girls' athletics, Linda L. Miller, daughter of Science Department Chairman Doug Miller '46, was awarded the Anne Marie Murphy Athletic Prize. For outstanding work in the theater, the Thespian Prize went to Kathleen A. Leary of Seabrook Beach, New Hampshire.

The Cummings Prize, presented to a student "who has shown perseverance and hard work and good spirit in contributing to the welfare of the school," was awarded to Abigail M. Woodbury of South Byfield. Justine E. Cook of West Newbury was

(cont. on pg. 2)



**Former Congressman Michael Harrington addresses the graduates.**



# ANNIVERSARY CLASSES LEAD REUNION DAY TURNOUT



**Reunion Day was a time for renewing acquaintances and fond memories, as practiced here by Harry Churchill '33 (left) of Chelmsford and Wendell Sargent '39 of Kennebunkport, Maine.**

Led by one third of the living members of the Class of 1929, over 200 alumni and their families flocked to the Governor Dummer campus on May 12 for the annual celebration of Reunion Day.

Despite threatening skies, the Alumni Association had made plans so well that the rains never came. While there was wide representation from many classes, most returnees centered around the reuning classes, those graduating every fifth year from 1929 through 1974.

Walter Temple '29 decided that 50 years was long enough to wait before returning to the Academy, and flew here from Los Angeles to join classmates Rod Gearhart of Delray Beach, Florida, and John P. H. Chandler of Warner, New Hampshire. They were joined at the head table by Raymond Dunn '34, celebrating his 45th Reunion.

The Class of 1954 celebrated its 25th Reunion by gathering on the eve of Reunion Day at a nearby restaurant. The dinner party was hosted by Tom Larsen and Charlie Hatfield, and featured observations and comments about the class by Buster Navins and Heb Evans.

The Class of 1959 enjoyed its 20th anniversary with a good turnout including Brian Marsh from London and Louis Platt from Bonn, Germany. Members of the 10th Reunion Class of 1969 who traveled to Byfield included Alby Nelthropp from St. Croix, Virgin Islands, and Peter

Bourneman and his wife from Denver. Both the 5th and 15th Reunion classes were well represented, thanks to the organizational efforts of Randi Birenbaum '74, and Jay Cooke '64 and Don Balser '64. Members of the Classes of '39 and '44 were also on hand, as was the Class of '49 headed by Chairman Bill Judson.

On Saturday morning, alumni began arriving as early as 9:00 a.m. The schedule of events included tours for those who had not seen the campus recently, and a picnic lunch served on the lawn in front of Phillips. Alumni Association Chairman Don Palais '45 spoke briefly on the activities of the Association, and Headmaster Jack Ragle announced the dedication of several classrooms in honor of the Old Guard (see story elsewhere in this issue).

In an afternoon of sports, the track team won by one point in a closely contested meet with Milton (84-83); the baseball team split a double header by losing to Rivers (4-2) but rebounding to beat Belmont Hill (4-3); and men's lacrosse lost to Pinkerton (12-2). The cocktail hour was held for the first time in the new French Student Center, followed by a roast beef and seafood newburg dinner served to a capacity crowd in the dining hall.

Next year, Reunion classes will be all those ending in a 0 or a 5; start making plans now to celebrate next spring in Byfield.

## COMMENCEMENT

(cont. from pg. 1)

the recipient of the Gaffney Prize for consideration of the rights, opinions, and sensibilities of others. For her contribution to the community outside the school, Johanna M. Stephan of Topsfield was awarded the Wilkie Service Prize. The Barriskill Prize for achievement in music was given to Christopher P. Kangis of Exeter, New Hampshire, and the Harvard Prize Book went to Dana H. Jones, a junior from Kennebunkport, Maine.

Special prizes are awarded annually to seniors who have contributed to the strength of the Academy "through perseverance, courage, initiative, sense of responsibility, loyalty and/or concern for others." This year's recipients were:

Kathleen M. Coffin, Hampton Falls, N.H.  
Andrew S. Linn, Zanesville, Ohio  
Laura J. Roome, Mirror Lake, N.H.  
Kimberly Saunders, Byfield, Mass.

The Bausch & Lomb medal for outstanding work in science was presented to Elizabeth A. Farley of Rowley, and the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal went to Stuart Cawley of West Newbury.

The winners of this year's Moody-Kent Prizes for outstanding achievement in each department of study were the following:

*English* — Johanna Stephan, Topsfield  
*History* — Anne W. Chisholm, Rye Beach, N.H.  
*Math* — Soothichai Sinthavanuchit, Bangkok, Thailand  
*Science* — Richard E. Theriault, Newbury  
*Religion* — Mark A. Whitney, Exeter, N.H.  
*Music* — Stephen H. Judson, New York, N.Y.  
*French* — Martha A. Blake, New York, N.Y.  
*Spanish* — Justine E. Cook, West Newbury  
*Art* — Stuart R. Cawley, West Newbury  
*German* — Sarah Putnam, Rowley  
*Latin* — Joan S. Esposito, Haverhill



**Morse Flag winner Stu Cawley was the recipient of four other awards as well.**



# SPRING ATHLETICS

The women's lacrosse team enjoyed its best year ever, sporting a 9-3 record and the Independent School League's Northern Division championship. The most satisfying victory of the season was a 6-5 win over previously undefeated Groton, in which goaltender Sue Perry, who was sensational all year, made 36 saves. At season's end, the high-scoring line of Julie Duff, Ashley Van Etten, and Antea Von Henneberg journeyed to Toronto where they joined a group of private and public school players and participated in an all-star tournament. The New England team, coached by GDA head coach Betsy Clark, was the tournament champion, and GDA's MVP Julie Duff of Byfield was chosen tourney MVP as well.

After a strong start, the men's lacrosse team went through something of a mid-season slump. They recovered for a strong finish, however, and wound up a successful season with a 9-5 record. One highlight was the 200th victory of head coach Heb Evans' career, and he accomplished the feat against a Winchester High team coached by a former GDA player, Gene Bouley '57. Captain and MVP Jeff Williams of Byfield was a stalwart on defense, and Chris Stafford of Danville, N.H. was named captain for next year.

After two sterling seasons in which they lost a *total* of two games, both years to league champion Belmont Hill, the tennis team found itself in a rebuilding year and finished with a 3-9 record. A highlight of the season was the progression of GDA's number one doubles team of Dean Harrison and Jeff Hatfield to the semi-finals of the Exeter Invitational at the end of the season. MVP Harrison, from Gloucester, will return next year as co-captain, along with Bill Bartlett of Newburyport.

Another rebuilding year was experienced by the golf team, which consisted largely of freshmen and sophomores and high hopes for the future. MVP Mike Weldon of Hampton, N.H. lost only one match



**(Above): Women's lacrosse captain Abbie Woodbury '79 is pictured with three of GDA's representatives on the New England All-Star team in Toronto: MVP Julie Duff '80, GDA and All-Star team coach Betsy Clark, and Antea Von Henneburg '81. The fourth All-Star, Ashley Van Etten '80, is shown below in the Alumnae Game with Jeanne Walz '77.**

all year, and Doug Campbell of Summit, N.J. placed third in the I.S.L. tourney. Freshman Sally DeGan of Boxford became the first GDA woman golfer to win a varsity letter.

The men's track team turned in a highly successful season with a 5-2 record, but was unable to repeat this year as Independent School League champion. The 440 Relay team of Andy Linn, Cedric Cornwall, Abner Mason, and, alternately, Khash Nourizadeh and Terrence Talley, did enable GDA to repeat as New England champs in this event; the result of last year's 440 team still stands as the New England record. The high point of the season was beating a highly favored Milton team by *one point*. Thirty-three of the 41 members of the team will return next year, headed by co-captains Joe Benson of Andover and Abner Mason of Durham, N.C. Neda Kalhori of Teheran, Iran was honored as MVP of women's track, and also as next year's captain.





# WILLS AND BEQUESTS AT GOVERNOR DUMMER

## Have you remembered GDA in your Will?

*I give, devise, and bequeath . . . my dwelling house and farm and all my Real Estate lying and being in Newbery . . . upon this special use and trust, viz. that the whole of Ye rents, issues and profits thereof shall in the first place be appropriated, laid out and expended in erecting, building and finishing a Grammar school house, to be erected on the most convenient part of my farm, according to Ye appointment of the then Ministers of the parish of Byfield . . . And it is my will that no scholar be admitted into such school but such as can read English well . . .*

Many people may not realize that Governor Dummer Academy itself was created as the result of a bequest. Ever since 1761, when the Will of Lt. Governor William Dummer established the first boys' boarding school in America, the Academy has frequently benefited from other bequests. Over the years, alumni and other friends have found it an appropriate reflection of their interest and concern to remember the Academy in their Wills.

Certainly there are many in the Governor Dummer constituency who, while they would like to make significant gifts to the school, feel prevented from doing so because of financial pressures imposed upon them during their lifetime. Providing for Governor Dummer in one's Will is often a very practical way to accomplish their intent of a major benefaction to the school.

Even though receipt of such a gift may be years down the road, there is immediate satisfaction both to the individual and to the school in the knowledge that such a provision has been made. The donor receives satisfaction in providing for future funds for the school in addition to the perhaps modest current funds given

during his or her lifetime. The school's satisfaction derives from knowing of the intention of the benefactor even though the funds will not be received for many years. It is most helpful for the school to be made aware of the provision for the gift, if at all possible, in order to assist in its planning for the decades ahead.

The making of a Will should not be limited to people of advanced age. Many young alumni and alumnae, who may be greatly limited in their capacity to give significantly to their alma mater out of current income, show a mature understanding and social awareness by expressing their appreciation of Governor Dummer through a provision in their Wills.

It is an oft-repeated fact that *everyone* should have a Will. The reasons for this may not be too obvious.

First, the existence of a Will prevents the imposition of legal complications upon one's family, which can involve substantial time, expense, and aggravation.

Another advantage is that, even if relatively young, a benefactor is enabled to designate the division of an *anticipated* estate. The amount and size of the estate is likely to increase appreciably over time, and not affect the intention of the benefactor as to who will benefit. This is particularly important, for it provides a degree of mental relief, or security, as one accumulates possessions or funds, without the inconvenience of periodically writing new Wills which reflect the increase of the estate.

A further incentive for having a Will regardless of age relates to the legal responsibility of the state to interject itself into a decision as to the division of an estate where there is no expressed intention of the deceased. If you die without a Will, the chances are great that your estate will not be dispersed as you would have wished.

Some may ask, "I have so little to leave; why bother with a will?" Many people do not understand or anticipate the satisfaction that can be derived from the division of even a modest estate. Leaving a particular relative, friend, or institution a portion, however little, of what one has accumulated in a lifetime is an expression of affection which is deeply felt by the recipient. Whether such benefaction takes the form of thousands of dollars or of a personal item which was treasured by the deceased, the gift conveys an expression which is beyond words, but has deep meaning.

Governor Dummer has received thousands of dollars from generous bequests. But the administration and trustees have been equally touched when the school has received personal possessions which have obviously been dear to the donor. Gifts such as paintings, libraries, or other personal items may be just as acceptable as gifts of money, securities, or real estate.

If you already have a Will, it is important periodically to review it in order to ensure that it takes into consideration the updated value of the possessions included in the estate and reflects any changes in relationships, such as marital status or the death of one previously included in the estate. A change in a Will can quite easily be effected by means of a codicil. It should also be noted that an unlimited estate tax deduction is available for all gifts to the Academy made by Will.

There are many ways that a loyal alumnus, a pleased parent, or a grateful friend can benefit Governor Dummer Academy by means of a Will. Indeed, the present strength of GDA can in significant measure be traced to individuals who long ago had the foresight to think ahead and make provision for the Academy which had come to be held by them in such high regard.

The future of Governor Dummer can similarly reflect the vision of young and old who today want to provide for tomorrow. The opportunity is present by means of a Will — a very thoughtful and a very practical measure for everyone.



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPANDS



**Members of the Alumni Executive at a recent luncheon in Boston: (left to right) Rich O'Leary '75, Faculty Representative Dick Leavitt, Dave Goodhart '41 (partially hidden), Tim Greene '50, Chairman Don Palais '45, Henry Dunker '47, Scott Lothrop '53, Joe Cook '53, Randi Birenbaum '74, Put Flint '37, and Peter Dorsey '69. Not pictured: Barry Burlingham '71 and Sam Wakeman '61.**

In an effort to become more representative of the entire alumni body, the Executive Committee of the Governor Dummer Alumni Association recently announced plans to expand its membership all across the country.

The Association was reorganized five years ago under the leadership of Buster Navins. Since that time, four of the original eight members of the Executive Committee have moved on to become Trustees of the Academy. Joe Cook '53 succeeded Buster as Chairman three years ago, and this spring was succeeded in turn by Don Palais '45. Its current membership consists of 13 alumni and one faculty representative.

During the group's formative years, it was felt important that all members be close enough geographically to be able to attend meetings regularly. Now that the Association has achieved a measure of stability and leadership, the Executive Committee proposes to appoint members in other areas of the country in order to keep abreast of the opinions and wishes of as many of the GDA constituency as possible.

To date, the following area members have accepted membership on the Committee:

Los Angeles — Theodore G. Bergmann '37  
290 Toyopa Drive  
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272  
(213) 454-5573 (home)  
(213) 852-2535 (office)

San Francisco — J. David Crockett '54  
70 La Encinal  
Orinda, CA 94563  
(415) 254-5399 (home)  
(415) 955-1500 (office)

Dallas — K. Dodd Miles '54  
9676 Covemeadow Drive  
Dallas, Texas 75238  
(214) 348-7724 (home)  
(214) 386-0965 (office)

Syracuse — Joseph J. Pietrafesa, II '77  
101 Salt Street  
Syracuse, N.Y. 13201  
(315) 379-9521 (home)  
(315) 422-2267 (office)

Alumni in these areas are urged to contact these representatives on any issues of concern to them involving the Academy. The names of new members in other areas will be announced in the near future.

The Alumni Association Executive Committee functions as a link between the school and its 3200 alumni. It acts as an advisory body to the administration on alumni issues, and is actively involved in supporting the school through activities such as area alumni receptions and Reunion Day. It produced the first Alumni Directory four years ago and is currently planning a new edition to be published a year from now.

## WEST COAST RECEPTIONS DRAW ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE

The first alumni reception held in Los Angeles in many years was held at the Century Plaza Hotel on April 20, 1979. An enthusiastic group of 35 alumni and friends heard remarks by Headmaster John W. Ragle and saw the popular slide-tape show which vividly presents the Academy as it is today. Hosting the dinner was Carl Pescosolido, Jr. '55, a Governor Dummer Trustee who lives in Exeter, California.

On April 19 in San Francisco, a cocktail reception was held for Bay Area alumni, parents, and friends. The group met in the Mark Hopkins Hotel, and also enjoyed the GDA film and the remarks of Mr. Ragle.

The Alumni Association Executive Committee is currently making plans for similar receptions in other parts of the country, and will announce details as soon as they are available.



**The first Annual Alumni Prize is presented to senior Cathy Coffin by Dick Leavitt, Dean of Students and representative of the Alumni Association.**

For the past two years, the Association has presented an Alumnus of the Year award; the first two recipients were Putnam P. Flint '37 and Josiah H. Welch '47. Beginning this year it is presenting a new commencement award known as the Alumni Prize, "to a member of the Senior Class who has shown community spirit and concern within the Academy during the senior year." The award itself is a replica of the key to the Little Red School House, and was given this year at the Senior Class dinner to Kathy Coffin of Hampton, N.H.



# GDA FOCUSES ON MIDDLE EAST

"The Middle East in Perspective" was the focus of a recent three-day program at Governor Dummer sponsored by the History Department and the Civic Service Educational Foundation. Guest participants Steven Erlanger, assistant foreign editor of *The Boston Globe*, and Geoffrey Godsell, roving correspondent for the *Christian Science Monitor*, conducted a variety of seminars which directed attention to the political, economic, and social dimensions of the Middle East, particularly on the recent political uprising in Iran. Both Mr. Erlanger and Mr. Godsell have had world-wide experience in journalism, and wrote from Iran during the crucial months from late 1978 through April, 1979.

The journalists inaugurated an extensive two-year design based upon a multi-faceted approach to this important international scene. Mr. Erlanger graduated from Taft and Harvard and edited the *Nieman Foundation Reports* before taking his present post at the *Globe*. He is the author of two recent articles, "Vietnam Now," and "The Shah and the United States: Illusions of Power." Geoffrey Godsell is the internationally known correspondent for the *Monitor*, and was in Tehran during the departure of the Shah, the



**Geoffrey Godsell, *Christian Science Monitor* correspondent.**

homecoming of the Ayatollah Khomeini, and the tumultuous fighting which resulted in the victory of the revolution.

Members of the Governor Dummer community took advantage of this rare opportunity to learn first-hand from our "resident experts" in classes and seminars, and at the school meeting and evening coffee. During their visit, the two writers raised some fundamental questions which have neither been answered nor overtaken by the historic and welcome turn of events with the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. Whether the topic was religion, energy, economic development, or Arab nationalism, the guests responded to the questions and opinions of an enthusiastic and interested school.

The Civic Service Educational Foundation continues to sponsor a wide variety of educational activities for the Academy, and during the coming months will initiate additional lectures, curricula designs, media programs, and research. Today the Middle East touches the heart of the United States in a complex and diverse manner, and the Foundation is developing a thorough, balanced, and informative perspective about this vital part of the world.



**Steven Erlanger, Assistant Foreign Editor of the *Boston Globe*.**

## CLASSROOMS DEDICATED TO OLD GUARD

Six Governor Dummer classrooms were recently renamed to honor the outstanding faculty members who were associated with these rooms for so many years. Collectively, the six masters honored represent a total of 241 years of teaching at Governor Dummer Academy.

To recognize his many years of teaching English, the Seminar Room in Frost Library was dedicated to Mac Murphy. For his years of teaching French, Roy Ohrn was memorialized by the dedication of the Language Laboratory, and for a long and distinguished career which included development of the popular Glee Club, Art Sager was honored through dedication of the Music Room. Two rooms in Parsons Schoolhouse commemorate the years of service from Ben Stone, and "Uncle Tom's Cabin," the English classroom in Noyes Library, was named for Tom Mercer.

Attractive plaques have been affixed to the entrances proclaiming the new names of these classrooms. They were officially dedicated on Reunion Day at ceremonies held in Thompson Auditorium.

All of these retired teachers live within a few miles of the Governor Dummer campus, with the exception of Roy Ohrn who died in 1966. Another Old Guard member, Buster Navins, was honored last year when the baseball diamond was renamed Navins Field.

## CLASS OF '59

To Pete Sherin and especially Bill Whiting who helped me so much with Reunion Planning, and to all who attended — especially Louie Platt, Brian Marsh and John Catlett — my sincerest thanks.

Jim Foley '59



# NEWS FROM THE ALLIES

## Flea Market and Antique Sale

The Allies' Flea Market and Antique Sale, held on Saturday, May 12, drew a large turnout of parents and friends of the Academy. Those attending enjoyed browsing through the antiques, collectables and "downright flea market treasures," eating a delectable fish chowder and chicken barbecue luncheon under tents, and then cheering on favorite GDA sports teams.

Special thanks go to Co-presidents Carol Kurtz and Patty Schwartz for supervising the fundraiser, and to parent Bill Evans, owner of Riverview Restaurant in Salisbury, for donating his superb catering skills for the luncheon. A profit of \$2,017 was realized at the sale and will be used for various projects on campus.

## Annual Dinner Meeting

Approximately sixty Allies and new parents attended the Allies' Annual Dinner Meeting held on Thursday evening, May 24. Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres were served in the faculty lounge followed by Gene Sumner's gourmet feast in the Phillips dining hall. Co-president Carol Kurtz presided over the meeting, which featured reports by committee chairmen, a singing medley by student leads Pam Kurtz, Steve Judson, and Chris Kangis from February's "Kiss Me Kate" production, and highly entertaining and informative talks by faculty member Mike Mulligan, student Abner Mason, parent Dan Mackay-Smith, and Headmaster John W. Ragle.

Mrs. Barbara Lovejoy, Mrs. Lindsay

Cavanagh and Mrs. Helen Sapuppo, outgoing members of the Allies board, were presented with gifts. Parent Bill Evans was also honored with a gift for his help at the Flea Market luncheon.

## New Slate of Officers

A new slate of officers was elected for next year, as follows:

*Pres.*-Mrs. A. Mackay-Smith, Jr. of Ipswich  
*Vice-Pres.*-Mrs. Josiah H. Welch of Newburyport  
*Sec.*-Mrs. Albert J. Kurtz of Exeter  
*Treas.*-Mrs. William H. Sperry of Hampton

The Allies are looking forward to an active year and welcome any suggestions and help you can offer. Plans are under way for the annual September Picnic and Field Day for all GDA families and friends. Use this summer to practice your softball throw, tug-of-war pull, and water balloon toss! Happy summer to all!

## SPECIAL PARENTS COMMITTEE WORKS FOR MILESTONES

A special committee of parents was recently convened to work on the school's capital campaign, "Milestones . . . 1977-1980." Its purpose is to invite the participation of current parents in the Milestones Campaign.

Co-chairing this committee are David & Runie Powers P'79 of New London, New Hampshire, and Scott & Sharlie Sudduth P'81 of Exeter, New Hampshire. They hosted a parents reception in May at the Mansion House, at which Headmaster Jack Ragle described the needs and opportunities which are covered by the Milestones Campaign.

The committee put together by the Powerses and the Sudduths includes: Bill & Ann Brine P'80, Weston; Pearce & Phoebe Coues P'81, Manchester; Alexandra Dane P'81, Lincoln; Estey Duff P'76, '78, '80, Byfield; Bill & Judy Friend P'82, Hamilton; Bob Lee P'76, '80, Beverly Farms; Leigh Mackay-Smith P'75, '78, '80, '82, Ipswich; Dick & Barbara Reichter P'79, North Andover; and Jon Wells P'82, Byfield.



***Co-Chairmen of the Parents Committee for the Milestones Campaign are Sharlie and Scott Sudduth P'81 (above) and Dave and Runie Powers P'79. Dave is also a member of the Class of '52 and a Trustee of the Academy.***







*Six Governor Dummer students were the recipients of first place honors in the high school division of the German Drama Festival held at the University of Connecticut on May 4. GDA's entry was a scene from the play by Freidrich Durrenmatt, "The Visit of the Old Lady". English Speaking Union student Barbara Riggs received a special award — covering high school and college level performances — for her individual role as Claire Zachnassian in the scene co-starred by Jim Miller '79. The cast members included (left to right) Ian Fitch '79, Barbara Riggs '79, Mr. Guy, Jim Miller '79, Derek Van Etten '79, (kneeling) Fred Long '80 and Erik Wicander '80.*

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Byfield, Massachusetts 01922

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